

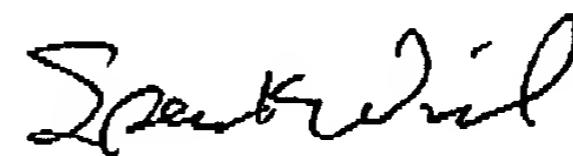
REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, 8, 11 and 18-20 are pending in this application. By this amendment, the claims 12-17 and 21-24 have been cancelled. Reconsideration in view of the above amendment and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 12-15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Iwasaki (JP-02001267200A) in view of Eynon (U.S. Patent No. 6,524,754). (Applicant assumes that claim 19 was included in the above-identified rejection as a typographical error since claim 19 depends on allowed claim 18.) By this amendment, these claims, and other dependent claims of claim 12, have been cancelled. In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is now in better condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary to place the application in better condition for allowance, he is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Spencer K. Warnick
Reg. No. 40,398

Date:

Hoffman, Warnick & D'Alessandro LLC
Three E-Comm Square
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 449-0044
(518) 449-0047 (fax)

09/683,748

- 7 -